

Application/Control Number: 09/847,720
Art Unit: 2142

Docket No.: PALM-3629.US.PSI

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-27 remain pending, claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17 and 22 having been amended.

Rejection of Claims 3, 10 and 17

On page 2 of the non-Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 3, 10 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. In particular, the Examiner alleged that claims 3, 10 and 17 conflict with their respective independent claims. Applicants submit that amended claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 15 and 17 obviate the rejection.

Step e) of amended claim 1 now recites “attempting to initiate”. Therefore, step f) of claim 3, which recites “if said step e) fails to establish ... attempting to initiate ...”. Claims 8 and 10 and claims 15 and 17 were amended similarly to claims 1 and 3. Applicants submit that amended claims 1 and 3, 8 and 10, and 15 and 17 do not conflict. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 3, 10 and 17 be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-27

On page 3 of the non-Final Office Action of September 23, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,681,252 to Schuster et al. (“Schuster”). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of all claims.

Amended independent claim 1 is directed to a method of establishing one of a group of network links on a computer system. The method includes, among other things, if attempting to initiate the first network link fails to establish the first network link and if the

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particular alternative network designation is associated with the first network link, attempting to initiate, by the computer system, a particular network link of the group of network links based on the particular alternative network link designation. Applicants submit that Schuster fails to disclose or suggest each and every of claim 1.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner alleged that Schuster, at col. 10, lines 27-35, discloses that if initiating the first network link fails to establish the first network link, and if the particular alternative network link designation is associated with the first network link, initiating a particular network link of a group of network links based on the particular alternative network link designation. Applicants disagree.

Schuster, at col. 10, lines 27-35, discloses:

The three alternative link interfaces described above are merely examples, and additional means for implementing the link interface between the data network telephone 208a and the PID 210a may also be used. Although three link interfaces are shown in FIG. 3, there may be only one such interface in the data network telephone 208a. More than one link interface may be included to improve flexibility and to provide redundancy in case of failure of one of the link interfaces.

Thus, Schuster discloses additional link interfaces between a data network telephone and a personal information device (PID). More than one link interface may provide redundancy in case of failure of a link interface. Although, Schuster discloses that an additional link interface may be included to improve flexibility and redundancy in case a link interface fails, Schuster is completely devoid of disclosing or suggesting that if attempting to initiate the first network link fails to establish the first network link and if the particular alternative network designation is associated with the first network link, attempting to initiate, by the computer system, a particular network link of the group of network links based on the particular alternative network link designation, as required by amended claim 1.

Because Schuster fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 1 and dependent claims 2-7 are not anticipated by Schuster and respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-7 be withdrawn.

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Amended independent Claims 8, 15 and 22 recite features similar to those of claim 1 and are not anticipated by Schuster for at least reasons similar to the reasons provided with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent claim 8, dependent claims 9-14, independent claim 15, dependent claims 16-21, independent claim 22 and dependent claims 23-27 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed all rejections, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. .

Respectfully submitted,

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